

I CLAIM:

1. A signal processing method comprising:
providing a source signal;
providing an identification code;
generating a non-deterministic code signal corresponding to the identification code;
and
producing a composite signal by embedding the code signal in the source signal;
wherein the identification code is statistically detectable from the composite signal.
2. The method of claim 1 in which the composite signal is produced by
holographically embedding the code signal in the source signal.
3. The method of claim 1 which further includes performing a statistical analysis on
the composite signal to determine whether an identification code embedded therein matches a
predetermined identification code.
4. The method of claim 3 which further includes performing the statistical analysis
on less than the entirety of the composite signal and nonetheless determining whether an
identification code embedded therein matches the predetermined identification code.
5. The method of claim 1 which includes generating an ensemble noise signal
corresponding in extent to the source signal, and adding the ensemble noise signal to the
source signal to effect the embedding, the ensemble noise signal corresponding uniquely to
only one identification code.
6. In a method of identification including the steps: embedding signature information
in a signal and thereafter discerning the signature information to effect identification, an
improvement comprising embedding a non-deterministic signature in the signal, and thereafter
statistically analyzing the signal to discern the signature.

7. The method of claim 6 which further includes:
providing a two-dimensional graphic display device;
displaying on the graphic display device an image that has the non-deterministic signature encoded therein; and
exposing a light-sensitive medium with the displayed image.
8. The method of claim 7 which further includes displaying on the graphic display device a snow image having the non-deterministic signature encoded therein.
9. A method of embedding an identification signature on a photographic medium comprising:
providing identification information;
generating an exposure pattern having the identification information encoded therein;
and
exposing the photographic medium with the exposure pattern.
10. The method of claim 9 in which the exposing results in an exposure that is substantially imperceptible to the human eye.
11. The method of claim 9 in which the exposure pattern has the identification information holographically encoded therein.
12. The method of claim 9 in which the encoding of the identification information in the exposure pattern is non-deterministic.
13. The method of claim 9 in which the photographic medium is print paper.
14. The method of claim 9 in which the photographic medium is emulsion film.